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DOESN'T KNOW PENALTY, U-2 PILOT TELLS WIFE**7 Years—Or Death**

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., June 14 (UPI).—U-2 spy plane pilot Francis G. Power wrote his wife from a Russian prison that he faces from seven years imprisonment to death for flights over the Soviet Union. But he told his pretty wife in the largely personal letter that he still hopes to build their dream house in the United States.

Mrs. Barbara Gay Powers, 24, released parts of the letter today through her physician, Dr. James Baugh, at a press conference here. She did not appear.

POWERS SAID in the letter delivered two weeks ago that "he has no idea of his fate," Baugh said.

Powers urged his wife to visit him in Russia but said it would do more good to have her and other relatives by him during and after his trial than now, Baugh said. Baugh said Powers wrote that Soviet authorities had told him any of his relatives would be welcome.

Baugh said Mrs. Powers was "doing very well" but added "her

emotional state is quite distraught." He said Powers "understands that he will be tried for espionage according to Soviet law."

It was uncertain when — or whether — Mrs. Powers would go to Russia. Her father-in-law, Oliver Powers of Pound, Va., said yesterday he plans to visit his imprisoned son in about two months.

POLICE SAID in his letter that it took him several days to compose himself before he could write. The letter did not appear to have been dictated.

He made no mention of when he might be tried, or whether he had legal counsel.

Baugh went on: "He (Powers) described his first sensation of coming down in his chute and the landing, where he received a minor skin wound of the face.

"He stated he was taken into custody and a woman doctor treated his wounds.

Powers also told his wife he had been taken to Moscow only

a few hours after his capture and taken on a tour of the city. He described the Soviet capital as "beautiful."

He said he has a number of books to read and a small courtyard for exercise.

"He knew of my returning home to stay with mother," Mrs. Powers said in the statement.

"MY HUSBAND had no idea of what his ultimate fate would be but had been advised he would be tried in accordance with Article 2 of their criminal code for espionage, and the possible sentence according to Soviet law could range from seven years to death.

"I am hopeful that my husband will be returned to me soon. It is my constant prayer that Mr. Khrushchev will reunite us as he has in other cases," she said.

Baugh said the pilot had written, "Our boat trip back will have to be postponed."

Powers was stationed at Izmir, Turkey, before his ill-fated flight over Russia May 1.